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HOLY NATIVITY CHURCH  
Germantown  
Philadelphia  
Pennsylvania

PH-29  
MHH/sk

## HOLY NATIVITY CHURCH, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

PH-29

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The congregation of Holy Nativity Church was organized in 1918 as a result of the efforts of St. Luke's Church, Germantown. The church, a Spanish Mission style structure seating approximately 135 persons, was built in 1925. A three-story structure, serving as a parish hall and rectory, is attached to the church building.

Insurance coverage is equivalent to approximately 54.4% of the total estimated replacement value of the church properties.

THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

For the purposes of this parish area has been assigned to the Church of the Holy Nativity. Conforming to Bureau divisions, this parish Study, an arbitrary Tracts 50-D, E, N, M, and P. The Church of the Holy Nativity is located in Census Tract 50-N. The 1960 population of this arbitrarily assigned parish area was 32,207 persons.

During the decade between 1950 and 1960, the population of Census Tract 50-N decreased by 7.1%, going from 9,012 persons in 1950 to 8,375 in 1960. Of the 1960 population, 21.0% comprised children under 14 years of age, adults 65 years of age and over comprised 14.0%, and 0.2% was non-white. Population characteristics for the other census tracts included in the parish area may be studied in the following chart. Note that Census Tract 50-M

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had the highest percentage of children 14 years of age and under, and that Census Tract 50-D had the highest percentage of adults 65 years of age and over. As a matter of fact, the percentage of adults in this age bracket was high in all tracts except 50-M. Such a high concentration of this element of the population usually requires the investigation of opportunities for providing a specialized ministry to them.

CENSUS TRACT OR ZONE	POPULATION		% CHANGE	% 14 & UNDER	% 65 & OVER	% NON-WHITE
	1950	1960				
PH-50-N	9,012	8,375	-7.1	21.0	14.0	0.2
50-M	6,135	6,157	0.4	26.6	9.1	0.4
50-E	8,440	7,590	-10.1	18.5	15.1	0.04
50-D	NA	4,290	-	14.9	20.7	0.3
50-P	NA	5,795	-	23.1	14.2	9.1
TOTAL		32,207				1.8

CENSUS TRACT OR ZONE	NON-WHITE POPULATION		% CHANGE	% RESIDENCE SAME AS 1955	PUERTO RICANS 1960	MED. FAMILY INCOME
	1950	1960		PERCENT	1960	
PH-50-N	11	16	45.4	67.0	0	6,591
50-M	9	22	144.4	72.1	7	6,638
50-E	5	3	-40.0	70.9	0	6,872
50-D	NA	13	-	54.0	0	7,034
50-P	NA	527	-	63.6	0	5,991
		581			7	

The Census Bureau gives information concerning the educational characteristics of adults 25 years of age and over in the parish area. Of the 1960 population of Census Tract 50-N, high school graduates comprised 28.9%, individuals who had received from one to three years

of college training made up 7.5%, and 6.3% were college graduates. The median educational level of the census tract was 10.9 years. The median age for males was 38.7 years and the median age for females was 42.8 years. The following chart is included for further study. Note that Census Tract 50-D had the highest percentage of college trained individuals. The median age for both males and females was also highest in this tract.

CENSUS TRACT OR ZONE	EDUCATION OF ADULTS 25 YRS. OF AGE & OVER					
	% H.S. GRAD.	% COLLEGE 1-3 YRS.	% COLLEGE GRAD.	MED. MED. EDUC.	AGE	
				M	F	
PH-50-N	28.9	7.5	6.3	10.9	38.7	42.8
50-M	26.8	6.8	5.5	10.8	31.9	36.1
50-E	28.2	8.3	7.7	11.1	41.8	47.7
50-D	28.2	11.2	12.4	12.1	43.5	49.3
50-P	23.6	6.0	5.5	10.0	34.7	40.1

As mentioned earlier, the total population of this arbitrarily assigned parish area was 32,207 in 1960. Of this number, 437 persons, representing 1.4% of the population, were oriented to the Episcopal Church. As far as these Episcopalians were concerned, only 40 were directly associated with the Church of the Holy Nativity. These 40 individuals made up 9.2% of the total Episcopalians in the area and 58.2% of the total mapped membership of 69 persons. In the following chart it should be noted that only six of the 100 Episcopalians in the census tract including Holy Nativity Church were members of the congregation. Membership was lowest in Census Tract 50-D, with two persons out of a total of 66.

	CENSUS TRACT OR ZONE	TOTAL POP.	TOTAL EPIS.	% OF POP.	TOTAL PARISH	% EPIS.	% PARISH
				EPIS.	MEMB.	MEMB.	MEMB.
PH-29 MHH/sk 4	PH-50-N	8,375	100	1.2	6	6.0	8.7
	50-M	6,157	52	0.8	13	25.0	18.9
	50-E	7,590	129	1.7	10	7.8	14.6
	50-D	4,290	66	1.5	2	3.0	2.9
	50-P	5,795	90	1.6	9	10.0	13.1
TOTAL		32,207	437	1.4	40	9.2	58.2

Pages K-1 through K-3 of the Church Self-Study Form list the public and private schools as well as other religious denominations that are located in the immediate church neighborhood.

THE CHURCH PROGRAMPH-29  
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On an average Sunday, there are approximately 47 persons in attendance at services at the Church of the Holy Nativity. These individuals represent 26.6% of the baptized membership of this congregation. Attendance at services therefore, is somewhat below the 45 to 50% average which exists in most Episcopal churches throughout the United States.

The church school lists an enrollment of 16 students and a staff of six persons. Classes are of one-hour duration for pre-schoolers through early teen-agers. Teachers are recruited from among the parents of the children in attendance at church school, with the rector providing the leadership in teacher-training sessions. The school's major problem is listed as difficulty in securing material for a very small church. No vacation church school is held.

Aside from regular church services and confirmation instruction, no formal adult education program exists in this congregation. Regarding strengthening of the program of Christian education, the congregation indicates that it is difficult to decide upon a time for meeting that is convenient to any reasonable number of persons.

A total of 34 adult women are members of this congregation. Of this number, 12 are active in the organizational life of the church. Of 23 adult men, 12 participate in the activities of one organization.

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A total of six clergymen, including the present incumbent, have served in this congregation since 1930. The present rector also is responsible for the services at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Germantown. As a result of the work of this church, two members of the congregation are presently attending seminary. One licensed lay reader assists the rector.

Financial statistics submitted show that of an income of approximately \$6,965.47, pledges account for \$2,869.55, or 41.2% of the income. Computed on an individual basis, pledges per communicant total \$50.34, slightly lower than the national average of \$56.00. An Every Member Canvass is conducted yearly with the rector providing instruction to the canvassers. Other means of fund raising or stewardship education include social parties, dinners, and a community carnival. Diocesan aid is approximately \$10,000.00 yearly.

The rector reports making an average of nine calls per week. Clerical duties are also performed by the rector. No program of lay pastoral visitation or evangelism exists in this congregation. Newcomers are invited to participate in activities. The congregation reportedly participated in a census of a 10 block area which resulted in no new members being added to the church.

General avenues of communication are utilized by this congregation.

The rector participates in community activities and there is good cooperation in the church's annual carnival. No parish program for the community exists nor does any community organization utilize the facilities

of the church. As far as participation in diocesan and National Church programs is concerned, the rector is a member of the Diocesan Department of Communications, a member of the Commission on Church Music, and a member of the Broadcasting Department of the Philadelphia Council of Churches.

With respect to future policy, program, and budget, the Church Self-Study Form indicates the need for the present rector to concentrate on this church only. Other needs include expansion of the parish hall and the equipment for the church school and church office. The major opportunity facing this congregation is that of integrating Negroes in the life of the church. The major problem is listed as lack of Episcopalians in the area since many of them are leaving for other parts of the city and the suburbs. The committee that prepared the Self-Study Form did not reveal and plan of activity, to cover the above-mentioned phases of the church's work.

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GENERAL DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND FIELD STUDY  
Episcopal Church Center  
815 Second Avenue  
New York, N. Y. 10017

CHURCH OF THE HOLY NATIVITY  
2101-2 65TH AVENUE  
PHILADELPHIA 38, PA.

Date June 9, 1964

CHURCH SELF-STUDY FORM

PH-29  
I. IDENTIFICATION

Street 2101 - 65th Avenue

Church Church of the Holy Nativity

County Philadelphia

City Philadelphia

Parish or Mission Aided

Diocese Pennsylvania

State Pennsylvania

What geographic area does this church serve? East Germantown

10-block area - centered on East Germantown Post Office.

Recd 6-3-64

II. THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

A. The church is located in a section of the city which is occupied by:

Downtown commercial uses \_\_\_\_\_ Industrial uses \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment dwellings \_\_\_\_\_

Rooming houses \_\_\_\_\_ Single-home dwellings  A college \_\_\_\_\_ Military

uses \_\_\_\_\_ Other institutions \_\_\_\_\_

B. If more than one type is checked above, please clarify:

C. Is the church neighborhood changing in any way? Describe:

White skilled workers being replaced by negro unskilled workers.

D. The following schools are located within the church neighborhood:

PUBLIC GRADESCHOOLS

Kinsey School

ADDRESS

65th Ave., & Limekiln Pike

PUBLIC JUNIOR AND SENIOR  
HIGH SCHOOLS

Wagner Junior High School

ADDRESS

18th Street & Chelten Avenue

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL NURSERY SCHOOLS

St. Benedict's R.C.

ADDRESS

Medary Ave., and Opal Street

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL GRADE SCHOOLS

ADDRESS

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL JUNIOR AND SENIOR  
HIGH SCHOOLS

ADDRESS

JUNIOR COLLEGES AND COLLEGES

ADDRESS

E. The following churches are located within the church neighborhood:

### III. HISTORY OF THE CONGREGATION

Please write out a short history of this congregation. How was the work started? Give the important dates and events.

St. Luke's Church, Germantown, in 1918 found that a large proportion of its membership was in this area. They purchased a former large farm house with three acres of land. The lower rooms were modified by taking down partitions to form one large room and worship began. The congregation grew and reached its peak in the early 1930's.

In 1925 St. Luke's sold some of the land and raised a mortgage and built the church alongside with communicating passage and cloister to the old building and the former chapel downstairs became the parish hall. Upstairs in the old house has served as rectory as it still does.

In 1953 St. Luke's felt that it could no longer regard its work as a chapel. Holy Nativity had a balance of \$3000 in the bank and it assumed parish status, although the premises was and still is in great need of repair. The rector was much underpaid. Around 1950 the people began to move to the suburbs. Roman Catholics replaced them in most cases. Finances began to wane.

This year ten have already been confirmed and more children have been attending Church School (in 1954 there were none). Five more should be confirmed before the year ends including two adults. Several older people have started attending and we hope it is the size of a man's hand.

#### IV. THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

##### A. Church properties:

1. Describe and give location of all land owned by the congregation, reporting the use of each parcel.

N.W.corner of 21st Street and 65th Avenue. Approximate size

3/4 acre.

Used for church and parish house.

2. Type of church building: Frame       Brick       Stone       Other       Stucco finish  
(type)

Describe the church building, giving number of sittings; condition of building; and improvements needed, with estimated cost:

Spanish Mission style with nave and chancel (built 1925)

Number of sittings 135

Condition of building - excellent.

Replacement Value \$ 80,000.00 Amount of insurance carried \$ 68,000.00\*

3. Type of parish hall and Rector's apt. or house: Attached       x Separated      ;

In basement of the church no; Frame       Brick      

Stone       x Other       covered with stucco.  
(type)

Describe, giving the number of rooms, the condition of the building, and improvements needed, with the estimated cost.

6 rooms in rectory and 7 rooms in parish hall.

Largest room in parish hall needs to be extended. Also general

repairs needed for building. Approximate cost \$10,000.00.

Replacement value \$ 45,000.00 Amount of insurance carried \$ a single  
policy covers both church and parish hall.\*

4. Type of rectory or clergy house: Attached \_\_\_\_\_ Separated x;  
Frame \_\_\_\_\_ Brick \_\_\_\_\_ Stone x Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(type)

Describe, giving the number of rooms, the condition of this building, and improvements needed, with estimated cost.

Our parish hall on first floor. 2nd floor, dining room, living room  
and kitchen and large hallway. 3rd floor, 2 bedrooms and bathroom.

Is it used as a clergy residence? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, what use is made of the building?

Replacement value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ See page K-5 Insurance carried: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

5. Describe all other buildings owned or used by the congregation, giving  
(a) type of construction; (b) number of rooms; (c) condition;  
(d) improvements needed and estimated cost; (e) replacement value;  
(f) amount of insurance carried; and (g) present use.

Description on K-5.

B. Membership (secure from parish records):

1. Number of church families: Total number 19

Number of individuals not in families 14

2. Baptized membership                      Communicants                      Church School

<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>Now</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>Now</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>Now</u>
<u>191</u>	<u>167</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>19</u>
			1959 5 yrs. ago	1960 4 yrs. ago	1961 3 yrs. ago	1962 2 yrs. ago	1963 Last year	

3. Number of baptized members  
who were removed from the  
parish list

6            3            4            5            5

Number of baptized members  
who were added to the  
parish list

3            1            5            6            15

4. Communicants added:

By confirmation from  
Episcopal families                      1            2            2            0            5

By confirmation from  
other Churches                          0            0            1            1            0

By reception from other  
Churches                                0            0            0            1            0

By baptism and confirma-  
tion from no church                    0            1            0            0            0

Total                                     1            3            3            2            5

5. Attendance:

Number of communicants who attended regularly last year                      35

Number of communicants who attended occasionally                                6

Number who did not attend last year, but lived in the  
community                                0

Number of communicants who did not live in the community,  
but were on the parish records, not transferred                                16

6. How many persons attended the last annual business meeting?                      \_\_\_\_\_

V. WORSHIP

A. List schedule of regular Sunday services, including church school:

TYPE OF SERVICE	HOUR	ATTENDANCE (Adults & Children)*		
		LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
Sung eve and sermon	11 a.m.	23	35	70
Church school	9:45 a.m.	5	12	19

\*Use figures from Church Service Register

B. Weekday services:

TYPE OF SERVICE	DAY AND HOUR	ATTENDANCE*		
		LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
Low Mass	Tuesday 7 a.m.	2	3	5
Low Mass	Thursday 9 a.m.	2	8	16

\*Use figures from the Church Service Register

C. Special services or missions held during the average year (including Lent):

Stations of the Cross and sermon on Friday evening during Lent..

Holy Hour - second Friday of month.

Confessions on Saturday evening 7:30 p.m.

May festival

D. Number and nature of services in which this congregation participates with other Episcopal congregations. State average attendance from this congregation:

Ash Wednesday evening at St. John the Baptist, average attendance 10.

Good Friday - three hour devotion. Average attendance 20.

Confirmation service at Trinity Church, Ambler, Pa., average

attendance 12.

E. What experiments or adjustments have been made in changing the hours or the format of services? Comment on results:

Sunday 7:30 - 9:30 and 11 a.m.

Sundays 8:00 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Sunday at 11 a.m. when Rector was assigned also to St. John the

Baptist Church in Germantown for services at 9 a.m.

F. Additional information about Sunday services:

1. Are birthdays, anniversaries, and the departed regularly remembered? yes
2. Is there a coffee or hospitality hour after any service? Yes
3. Is baby care provided during any service? No

## VI. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

#### A. Church School

## 1. Registration and attendance

a. Teachers and staff \_\_\_\_\_ 6

b. Students \_\_\_\_\_ 16

Total 22

c. Lowest total classroom attendance during the past year 6

d. Highest total classroom attendance during the past year (except for Christmas and Easter) 20

e. Are absentee cards used? No

f. How many months of the year is the church school in operation? 9

g. If teachers call on students in case of absence, or for other reasons, please give details. \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Worship schedule

### 3. Instruction schedule

4. List the teaching aids used, including audio-visual material.

Blackboard, Bulletin Board, Lesson Posters and Pictures

5. Describe the program for pre-school children.

From the Book of Common Prayer we teach the children the responses used in various services. We also have a Bible story series with appropriate pictures for coloring.

6. Data on the teaching staff

a. How are teachers recruited? Generally from the parents of the children attending.

b. Describe the way in which teachers are trained, giving the number of sessions, the leaders, etc. Generally from the parents of the children attending. Four teachers' meetings are scheduled throughout the year with the Rector as Chairman. The program and teaching methods are discussed.

c. How are teachers assisted in the performance of their duties?

Because of the small number in each class, there is no need for a classroom aid.

d. Summary of teachers' backgrounds

<u>AGE</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>EDUCATION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>YEARS TEACHING</u>	<u>Number</u>
19 years or less	1	Grade school	4	one	1
20 to 29	—	Junior high	4	two	2
30 to 39	2	Senior high 1 to 3 years	3	three	—
40 to 49	1	College	—	four	—
50 years or more	—	College grad.	1	five	—
		Graduate study	—	6 to 10	1
Male	2			11 to 20	—
Female	2	K-12		20 and over	—

7. What problems does the church school have? \_\_\_\_\_

Finding course material for a very small church.

B. Vacation Church School

NONE NOW

1. When is it held? \_\_\_\_\_
2. For how long each day? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What type of courses are taught? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many children attend, usually? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many of these children are regular pupils of this congregation's church school? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How many teachers are there? \_\_\_\_\_

C. Released Time Program

1. When are classes held? NONE

2. What type of courses are taught? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many of this congregation's children attend? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the relationship of the teachers to this congregation? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is the relationship of the Released Time classes to the Christian education program of this congregation?

D. Day School: If the congregation has a day school, please fill out the Parochial School Report Form and submit it with this report.

#### E. Confirmation Instruction

## 1. Children

- a. What is the usual age of confirmation? 10 - 14 b. How many instruction sessions are held? 12 c. How long is each session? 1 hour d. Who is the instructor? Pastor e. What material is used? B.C.P. and Pastor's own material.

f. What is the relationship of the confirmation class material to the regular church school curriculum? St. James Lessons on Church. Pastor supplements.

## 2. Adults

- a. How many sessions are held? 12 b. How long is each session?  
1 to 2 hrs. c. Who is the instructor? Pastor d. What  
material is used? Priest's own materials

#### F. Adult Education

1. List the general adult education program in the congregation, including Bible classes, parents' classes, discussion groups, etc.

2. What Retreats, missions, Quiet Days, etc., have the members participated in during the last two years? Estimate the total number of participants.

None

3. What leader- and participant-training programs have been held in the last two years, such as the Indiana Plan, Parish Life Conferences, Missions, and Institutes? Estimate the total number of participants.

None

- G. How can the Christian education program of this congregation be strengthened?

It is difficult to find a time when a reasonable number can attend from a small parish.

VII. SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATIONS - Include, where applicable, vestry or bishop's committee, parish council, choirs, guilds, circles, ushers, acolytes (for men as well as boys), college work, etc.

A. For Women

1. Give the total number of adult women in the congregation. 34
2. Give the number of organizations for adult women. 9
3. Give the total active membership of all these organizations. 12

B. For Men

1. Give the total number of adult men in the congregation. 23
2. Give the number of organizations for adult men. 1
3. Give the total membership of all these organizations. 12

C. For Men and Women

1. Give the number of organizations for men and women. 0
2. Give the total active membership of all these organizations. 0

D. For Girls in:

1. Total number of girls — — —
2. Number of organizations — None —
3. Total active membership — — —

E. For Boys in:

1. Total number of boys 2 — 3
2. Number of organizations 1 — 1
3. Total active membership 2 — 3

F. For Youth in:

1. Number of organizations — None —
2. Total active membership — — —

N.B. Please make a separate report for each individual organization, using the format on the following pages.

### VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

- A. Name Altar Guild. None  
Total active members 6 Average attendance at meetings \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of meetings each month \_\_\_\_\_ Day and time of meetings \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Why does this organization exist?  
Washes Altar linen. Cleans sanctuary and furnishings.  
Deal with brass and altar vessels.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn? Women  
\_\_\_\_\_
- D. Describe the worship and the educational program.  
Not separate from congregation  
\_\_\_\_\_
- E. Describe the other activities of the organization.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?  
Not sufficient in number.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- G. What can be done for greater effectiveness? Nothing until more  
members suitable can be found as certain girls grow older and  
can assume responsibility.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: Rector

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Acolytes Guild

Total active members 8 Average attendance at meetings \_\_\_\_\_

Number of meetings each month - Day and time of meetings \_\_\_\_\_

B. Why does this organization exist?

Serve the Altar and Sundays

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn? Old  
young men and boys

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

Serve simple High Mass on Sundays

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

None.

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

None

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness? more needed

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Rector

### VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name St. Mary's Guild

Total active members 12 Average attendance at meetings 10 Sunday

Number of meetings each month 1 Day and time of meetings 2 p.m.

B. Why does this organization exist?

To raise money and provide social outlet for the women.

All women may belong.

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn? women  
of all ages

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

None

E. Describe the other activities of the organization. None

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

Could become more a devotional praying group.

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness? Changing time to a week

night or afternoon.

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Rector.

IX. CLERGY OR LAY READERS IN CHARGE SINCE 1930

<u>NAME</u>	<u>APPROX. AGE AT START OF MINISTRY HERE</u>	<u>PERIOD OF TENURE</u>	<u>MOVED TO:</u>
<u>Geoffrey Horsfield</u>		<u>1930-33</u>	<u>St. Paul's, Savannah, Ga.</u>
<u>James Thomas</u>		<u>1933-41</u>	<u>Little Portion Monastery, L.I.</u>
<u>Moorehouse L. Johnson</u>		<u>1941-44</u>	<u>Advent, Boston</u>
<u>Louis A. Haschmeyer</u>		<u>1944-48</u>	<u>Wesleyan College, Mount Pleasant, Iowa.</u>
<u>Franklin R. Funk</u>		<u>1949-56</u>	
<u>Robert C. Forster</u>		<u>1957-</u>	

A. Does the present minister live in the neighborhood? Yes

Does he give full time to this church? No If not, what other church(es) does he serve, or what other work does he do?

Church of St. John the Baptist, Germantown

B. How many people from this parish have gone into full time work for the church within the past ten years, or are now studying for such work? 2  
Please give details.

Karl G. Layer, now at Nashotah House

Don F. Vandegrift, now at Seabury-Western.

C. How many licensed lay readers serve the congregation now? 1

Do any lay readers from this congregation serve other congregations? No

If so, which congregations?

X. FINANCE

A. Income (Last Full Year): (1) Pledges \$2869.55 (2) Plate offerings \$427.62 (3) Parish or mission organizations \$\_\_\_\_\_ (4) Endowments \$\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Special fund drives \$Nine (6) Other (please specify) \$Organizations \$2168.30  
 Diocesan Aid \$1500

	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	Last Full Year
Total current expenses	\$600.44	4514.43	6556.04	7258.80	6418.17	
Diocesan Assessment	24.00	57.98	12.36	160.00	168.44	
Missionary Disbursements	208.53	440.00	469.44	370.68	500.00	
Special parish expense	None	None	None	None	None	
Clergy salary or salaries: from congregation	a) 2200	2200	3156.09	2461.72	1000.00	
b) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	
from other sources	a) 1250.00	225	_____	1500	1500	
b) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	1500	
Rental value of the rectory <u>Apartment</u>	\$ 50.00					
Is the church in debt? <u>No</u>	Amount of debt \$ <u>None</u>	Method of repayment <u>None</u>				

**Finance (cont'd)**

7. Is a thorough Every Member Canvass conducted each year? Yes  
If yes, ~~by mail~~ or personal solicitation? Personal Describe the  
training of the canvassers. Instructed by the Rector. Took  
special courses with larger parish groups four years ago.
8. What other means of fund raising or stewardship education are used?  
Social parties, dinners, Community Carnival
9. If this is a mission or aided parish, what is the potential for self-  
support? Aided Parish - \$10,000.
10. Additional comments or information on finances:  
Substantial givers are replaced by younger people and those  
who cannot give as much.
- C. Travel:
1. Does the priest have a car? Yes
  2. By whom is the car purchased? Priest x Congregation   Diocese
  3. How much is the annual operating expense of the car, omitting depreciation? \$700.00 4. By whom is the operating expense paid?
  5. How much does the local congregation pay? \$360
  6. Average number of miles traveled per month on church business

## XI. CHRISTIAN EVANGELISM AND VISITATION

### A. Clergy pastoral calling during the past year by rector or vicar:\*

TYPE OF CALL	NUMBER OF CALLS PER WEEK		
	LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
1. Family or routine parish	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>
2. Sick or emergency	<u>0</u>	<u>1-2</u>	<u>4</u>
3. Calls for other purposes	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>
4. Time set aside for pastoral calling:	<u>8 hours per week</u>		
5. How do the clergy organize their parish calling?	<u>Unless meetings, clerical work, mimeographing, etc., does not intervene,</u> <u>2 hours per afternoon reserved for visits, one evening a week for</u> <u>those who work.</u>		
6. How do the clergy organize their calling on the unchurched and newcomers?	<u>Newcomers visited as soon as possible. Unchurched when some lead</u> <u>is given by some contact or other.</u>		
7. Time spent in pastoral counseling (average hours per week)	<u>1 hour.</u>		

\* Please give similar information, separately, for other clergy.

### B. Lay calling:

1. Describe the Zone or Neighborhood Organization. At time of

Every Member Canvas.

2. Describe the program of lay pastoral visitation, including the number of participants and the time spent.

No Lay pastoral visitation.

3. Describe the program of lay evangelism (including the congregation's approach to newcomers and to the unchurched), giving the number of participants and the amount of time.

Through contact at social affairs, coffee hour, etc.

4. How are newcomers integrated into the life of this congregation?

Women join in St. Mary's Guild activities. Men and women invited to help in parish functions.

5. Describe any religious census of the area made by the congregation itself or with other churches during the last ten years.

1959 - 10 block area surveyed. Found district 62% Roman Catholic. Found no new members.

## XII. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. What use is made of the press? Occasional news items. Weekly "ads" when radio program is on WIFI.

- B. What use is made of radio and/or television? For 3 years ran program "Evensong" for 45 min. slot. Last year series of 13 "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You".

- C. What use is made of the U.S. Mail?

Pastoral letters, fund appeals, etc.

- D. Describe the regular publications which are mailed or distributed, including Sunday bulletins, parish newsletters, etc.

1 Sunday Bulletin. Page in "Trinity Chimes" of Trinity Church, Ambler, Pa., mailed to membership. Had 5000 brochures printed and distributed by professional firm.

- E. How many church road signs are there? 3

XIII. NEIGHBORHOOD OR COMMUNITY

A. Is this congregation community-minded? Not as a whole. Individuals are.

B. Describe the clergy participation in community affairs. \_\_\_\_\_

Visits to Kiwanis Club. Hon. Chaplain to local American Legion Post.

C. Describe the participation of the congregation in community affairs.

Annual Carnival involves whole block being barricaded off. Neighbors sign petition for this. Whole community joins in.

D. Describe the general parish program for the community (including such church-sponsored programs as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, etc.):

None.

E. List community organizations using the parish hall and its facilities:

None

F. Describe the way in which the congregation cooperates with other religious bodies:

Help general social affairs at local Roman Church. They attend our social functions in return.

XIV. PARTICIPATION IN DIOCESAN AND NATIONAL CHURCH PROGRAMS:

A. What offices do the clergy hold in the diocese, missionary district, or National Church? Rector, member of Diocesan Dept. of Communications;  
member, Commission on Church Music; member of Broadcasting Dept. of local  
Philadelphia Council of Churches for Diocese.

B. What offices do the lay people hold in the diocese, missionary district, or National Church? None.

C. What diocesan or National Church programs have directly benefited this congregation?

Every Member Canvas

D. Describe the men's participation in diocesan programs:

None

E. Describe the women's participation in diocesan programs:

None

F. Describe youth participation in diocesan programs: None

G. Does this congregation pay its full Missionary Share or Quota? No

H. What percent of the congregation's budget does for missionary work? 7%

XV. STAFF

A. List all paid personnel working for this congregation, giving title, function, and salary, and telling whether full or part-time.

Rector - shared with St. John the Baptist Church, Germantown.

\$4,000.00, plus house and utilities.

Organist. Part time. \$360 per annum.

Sexton. Part time. \$360. per annum.

B. Describe the use of volunteer personnel by this congregation.

Altar Guild work. Men do some painting, plumbing and elec-

trical work, etc. Down stairs premises repainted by members of

congregation, both men and women.

## XVI. FUTURE POLICY, PROGRAM, AND BUDGET

- A. In adopting a policy for an expanded program for this congregation, in order to vitalize its Christian witness to the community; to extend its outreach of Christian fellowship to all the unchurched; to increase initiative and responsibility for all members of the congregation; to develop local financial resources with a view towards self-support and parochial status (if not already attained); and to further other essential advances, what are the immediate needs as to:

1. Personnel: Rector to concentrate on his parish with no other church to tend.

2. Buildings: Parish Hall needs to be expanded and made more attractive.

3. Equipment: Church School needs visual aids, modern typewriter and mimeograph machine.

- B. What are the major opportunities that face this congregation?

District just beginning to "go colored". Should be ready for this. May need colored Rector in 2 years time.

- C. What are the major problems that face this congregation?

Not enough Episcopalians in this district. People currently being transferred are not replaced.

- D. What program needs seem evident on the basis of this Study?

None at the moment of this period of transition. Might need larger Church School program in two years time.

- E. What would be the approximate capital cost to meet these needs?

\$10,000.

F. What would be the annual operating budget to maintain the program?

Cannot tell now.

G. What steps are now being taken locally to meet these needs and opportunities?

None can be taken. Would like to make Diocesan aid

unnecessary first.

H. What steps are now being taken by the diocese or district, or might be taken, to assist in meeting these needs and opportunities?

Study by Department of Strategy of the Diocese is taking place in this area.

I. Further data or comment on the general needs and problems of this congregation:

The data in this report were furnished by the following committee:

NAME	OCCUPATION	NUMBER OF YEARS IN PARISH
Rev. Robert C. Forster	Rector	7 years.
Dr. Charles A. Appleton	Retired	

Date completed: June 9, 1964

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REPORTED MEMBERSHIP FROM MAPS

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A total of 69 persons is located on the membership map submitted by this congregation. There are 50 members of the congregation residing in Census Tract 50-M, 10 in 50-E, 9 in 50-P, 7 in 35-C, and 6 in 50-N.

Further details of the membership distribution pattern of this congregation may be observed in the table on the following page.

## MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION TABLE

P A R I S H   P H I L A D E L P H I A

## HOLY NATIVITY

REPORTED MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL DATA FROM JOURNALS

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During the decade between 1950 and 1960, baptized membership in the Church of the Holy Nativity increased by 5.0%, going from 159 baptized members in 1950 to 167 in 1960. According to the records, a slight but steady increase has continued to project itself into 1963. Following an opposite pattern, communicant strength decreased by 53.6% during the same decade, going from 140 communicants in 1950 to 65 communicants in 1960. After a slight increase of two communicants in 1961, communicant strength again decreased in 1962 and 1963. Similarly, church school enrollment decreased by 57.1% during the decade between 1950 and 1960, going from 35 down to 15. Enrollment fluctuated during the three-year period between 1961 and 1963, increasing in '61, decreasing in '62 and again increasing in '63.

During the three-year period between 1961 and 1963, five persons were baptized in the Church of the Holy Nativity. These individuals constituted 2.7% of the communicant strength. During the same period, 10 persons were confirmed, and these represented 5.5% of the communicant strength of the congregation.

A total of \$16,396.00 was expended during the three years between 1961 and 1963. Of this amount, \$2,299.00, representing 14.0% of the expenditures, was used for extra-parochial purposes. Computed on an individual basis, extra-parochial expenditures per communicant amounted to \$12.63, and expenditures per communicant amounted to \$90.09. It should be pointed out that the Journal of the Diocese did not list any expenditures for this aided parish in 1962.

## VITAL STATISTICS

PARISH HOLY NATIVITY  
 COUNTY PHILADELPHIA

TOWN PHILADELPHIA  
 DIOCESE PENNSYLVANIA

	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1961	1962	1963
Baptized Members	200	200	159	209	167	166	167	177
Communicants	166	157	140	156	65	67	58	57
Church School	46	33	35	29	15	24	14	23
Baptisms	2	4	7	5	1	-	5	-
Percentage of Communicants	1.2	2.5	5.0	3.2	1.5	-	8.6	-
Confirmations	3	5	5	6	3	3	2	5
Percentage of Communicants	1.8	3.2	3.6	3.8	4.6	4.5	3.4	8.8
Parochial Expenditures 1	2,802	2,230	4,572	6,225	8,418	6,273	-	5700
Special Par. Expenditures 2	688	2,960	1,632	1,568	261	1,884	-	240
Extra-parochial Expenditures 3	267	409	681	962	445	485	-	1814
Total Reported Expenditures	3,757	5,599	6,885	8,755	9,124	8,642	-	7,754
Expenditures per Communicant	22.63	35.66	49.18	56.12	140.37	128.99	-	136.04
Extra-parochial Expenditures per Communicant	1.61	2.61	4.86	6.17	6.85	7.24	-	31.82

\* FORMERLY NATIVITY CHAPEL, GERMANTOWN

1 Includes clergy salary, current expense, pension premium, and Diocesan assessment.

2 Special parish purposes, including capital expenditures.

3 Includes Church's Program, special outside.

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#### DATA ON THE CONGREGATION

A total of 122 persons were included in the Episcopal Census of this congregation. Since both the Journal of the Diocese and the Self-Study Form report a total of 177 baptized members, the response on the census is considered too small to allow for any valid analysis of the profile of the congregation. Consequently, the following paragraphs are intended merely to highlight certain aspects of the census.

Of 116 persons whose ages were tabulated on the age and sex chart of the census, 49 were males and 67 were females. There were 16 children under 10 years of age, 17 older children and teen-agers, 17 adults in their 20's, 11 adults in their 30's, 13 adults in their 40's, 12 adults in their 50's, 14 adults in their 60's, and 16 adults 70 years of age and over.

A total of 116 persons reported on their occupations. Of this number, 75 were not gainfully employed: 10 were pre-students, 30 were students, 25 were housewives, and 10 were retired. Among the 41 gainfully employed persons, clerical workers formed the largest group with 10, followed by craftsmen with 9, and by professional people with eight.

Of 79 persons who reported on their length of membership in this congregation, 20 have been members for less than five years, 11 have been members between five and nine years, 10 between 10 and 14 years, four between 15 and 19 years, and 29 have been members 20 years or more.

Of 73 adults 25 years of age and over reporting on their education, 12 were college graduates, six had

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received from one to three years of college training, 31 were high school graduates, 17 had received from one to three years of high school training, and seven had received from five to eight years of elementary education.

A total of 102 persons reported on their nativity. Of this number, 92 were born within the United States and 10 were not. Further, 85 were born within the State of Pennsylvania and 17 were born elsewhere.

Of 73 persons reporting on their nationality background, 62 were Anglo-Saxon, eight were Northern European, one was Southern European, and two were Russian Slavic.

## DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## CHURCH OF THE HOLY NATIVITY, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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Work in this aided parish began in 1819 as an extension of St. Luke's Church, Germantown. The present church edifice, of brick and stucco construction, was built in 1925. The congregation shares the services of its rector with St. John the Baptist Church, Germantown.

The ministry of the church extends over an area which is currently experiencing shifts in population, and many aspects of the church's program appear to have been affected adversely.

The program of Christian education, both for children and adults, merits some study. The Church Self-Study Form shows an enrollment of 16 students and six teachers and staff, with instruction being provided from pre-school through pre-confirmation. The recruitment and training program for teachers appears to be inadequate, and the selection of course material for such a small school is a problem. No adult education program, except for confirmation instruction, exists. It was pointed out that it is rather difficult to get people to attend sessions.

The level of participation has also been affected. Of 57 adult men and women in the congregation, 24 are active. At the time of the visitation meeting, it was pointed out that activities had become somewhat restricted, particularly because of a recent diocesan edict against the use of games of chance by the church.

Financial statistics compiled for the Study show

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that, of an income of \$6,965.47, 41%, or \$2,869.55, comes from pledges. In addition, the diocese contributes \$1,500.00 to the church's finances. Despite the yearly Every Member Canvass, pledging has remained low. Further, games of chance as a means of revenue are now prohibited. In view of this, the low level of giving should be a major concern of the congregation.

Page K-30 of the Church Self-Study Form indicates the need of a full-time rector and the expansion and improvement of facilities and equipment, especially for church school.

In the opinion of the General Division of Research and Field Study, this congregation cannot long exist under present conditions. The Church Self-Study Form reveals an awareness of the many changes that are occurring, but no program of approach has been outlined. In addition, at the time of the visitation meeting, some concern was voiced over the future of the church. The General Division of Research and Field Study is aware of the fact that "the district is just beginning to go colored." However, it does not concur with the Study Group belief that the congregation "may need a colored rector in two years time."

There appears to be no reason why this congregation should be allowed to remain stagnant. The major opportunity confronting this congregation lies in the direction of promoting and extending genuine Christian witness and commitment, particularly as it concerns the racial question. The congregation might do well to consider very seriously a merger with its sister Episcopal Church, the House of Prayer Church, located to the southeast.

In view of the position of the Study Group, as indicated in the Church Self-Study Form, the diocese

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should take the initiative in arranging for the consideration of a merger between the two congregations.

As a result of the visitation meeting, and information set forth in the Church Self-Study Form, the diocese should endeavor to involve the present rector of the Church of the Holy Nativity in an area of work for which he has specialized training and talents.